



# advance

a strategic plan for **columbus**

# ONE CITY. ONE PLAN.



# STEERING COMMITTEE

Organization	Title	Name
City of Columbus	Mayor	Kristen Brown
City of Columbus	Director of Human Rights	Lorraine Smith
United Way	President	Mark Stewart
Institute for Coalition Building	Executive Director	Jack Hess
Heritage Fund	President and CEO	Tracy Souza
Cummins, Inc.	VP Community Affairs	Mark Gerstle
CAMEO	President	Tom Harmon
Columbus Regional Hospital	Director of Volunteer Services	Laura Hurt





...we would like to see this community come to be not the cheapest community in America, but the very best community of its size in the country. We would like to see it become the city in which the smartest, the ablest, the best young families anywhere would like to live; a community open in every respect to persons of every race, color, and opinion; one that makes them feel welcome and at home here; a community which offers their children the best education; a community of outspoken churches, genuine cultural interests, exciting opportunities for recreation and a community whose citizens are themselves well-paid and who will not tolerate poverty for others, or slums in their midst.”

—Mr. J. Irwin Miller, 1964





# VISION

To be the very best  
community of its  
size in the country.



# VALUES

- Excellence
- Our People
- Collaboration
- Design
- Service
- Community





# Excellence

We commit to achieving the extraordinary in everything we do as a community.



# Our People

We value the contributions of everyone in our community. We embrace diversity of thoughts, beliefs and backgrounds.





# Collaboration

We, as individuals and organizations, both public and private, partner to realize the greatest outcomes possible for our community.



# Design

We believe Winston Churchill's observation that "We shape our buildings; thereafter, they shape us." We apply this belief to the design of our community through our architecture, public art and parks.



# Service

We care and give back to one another in pursuit of contributing to something greater than ourselves.





# Community

We enjoy our relationships with one another and coming together as a community, both in times of celebration and in times of need.

# OUR PRIORITIES





# OUR GOALS

Advance Economic Prosperity  
and Well-Paying Jobs

- Work Ready Community
- Business-Friendly Community
- Cultural and Creative Capital
- Welcoming Community





# Work Ready Community

Close the skills gap so our employers are competitive and prosper and our employees have the skills to fill high-wage, high-demand jobs.



# Cultural and Creative Capital

Enrich the community with vibrant and diverse arts and cultural activities and assets that are affordable and appealing to all.



# Welcoming Community

Be a united community that actively welcomes and celebrates diversity of race, ethnicity, ability, background and opinion.





# Business-Friendly Community

Provide the environment  
and resources that  
ensure our employers  
prosper and create good  
jobs in ways consistent  
with our values.



# OUR GOALS

Advance the safety and health of our community.

- Safest Community
- Healthy Community
- Environmentally Responsible Community



# Safest Community

Be the safest city of our size in the country.





# Healthy Community

Radically improve the health and wellness of our residents through healthy behaviors, healthy lifestyles and access to healthcare.



# Environmentally Responsible

Ensure a healthy environment by adopting economically-sound sustainability practices.



# OUR GOALS

Advance Opportunities  
for All.

- Lifelong Learning for All
- Quality Housing Opportunities for All
- Financial Stability for All





# Lifelong Learning for All

Ensure all children and adults reach their full learning potential and are well-prepared for personally rewarding careers and lives.



# Quality Housing Opportunities

Ensure safe and  
affordable housing and  
attractive and proud  
neighborhoods for all.



# Financial Stability for All

Everyone is able to meet their basic needs and has opportunities for income improvement and to save for the future.





# OUR LEADERSHIP

- Community Education Coalition
- Economic Growth Council
- Columbus Arts District Coalition
- Welcoming Community Coalition
- Public Safety Coalition
- Healthy Communities Council
- Environmental Coalition
- Mayor's Council on Housing
- Financial Stability Coalition (TBD)

## Our People

The privilege to lead comes from our people and success is measured by our engagement of and service to all.

## Our Vision

To be the very best community of its size in the country.

## Our Values

- Excellence
- Our People
- Collaboration
- Design
- Service
- Community

## Our Priorities

Advance Economic Prosperity and Well-Paying Jobs

Advance the Safety and Health of Our Community

Advance Opportunities for All

## Our Goals

- Work Ready Community

- Business Friendly Community

- Cultural and Creative Capital

- Welcoming Community

- Safest Community

- Healthy Community

- Environmentally Responsible Community

- Lifelong Learning

- Quality Housing Opportunities

- Financial Stability

## Our Leadership

- Community Education Coalition

- Columbus Area Economic Growth Council

- Columbus Arts District Coalition

- Welcoming Community Coalition

- Public Safety Coalition

- Healthy Communities Council

- Environmental Coalition

- Community Education Coalition

- Mayor's Advisory Council on Housing

- Financial Stability Coalition

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